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HIS
MAIESTIES

DECLARATION,

IN

ANSVVER

TO A

DECLARATION

Of the LORDS and COMMONS assembled in PARLIAMENT,

For the raising of all Power, and Force, as well Trained Bands as others in severall Counties of this Kingdom, to lead against all Traitors and Their A D-

HERENTS, &c.

Reprinted at Oxford by His MAIESTIES
COMMAND.

By LEONARD LICHFIELD, Printer
to the *Vniuersity*.

1642.

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His
Majesties Declaration, in Answer to a
*Declaration of the Lords and Com-
mons assembled in Parliament, &c.*



As much experience as We have had of the inveterate rancour, and high Insolence of the Malignant Party against Us, We never yet saw any expression come from them, so evidently declaring it, as the Declaration, entituled, *A Declaration of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, for the raising of all power and force, as well Trained-bands as others in severall Counties of this Kingdome, to leade against all Traytors, and their Adherents. &c.* In which, that faction hath, as it were distilled, and contracted all their Falshood, Insolence, and Malice. There being in it not one Period, which is not either slanderous, or Treasonable. And nothing can more grieve Us, then that by their infinite Arts, and Subtilty (employed by their perpetuall

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uall and indefatigable Industry) and by that Rab-
 ble of *Brownists*, and other *Schismatickes*, declared-
 ly ready to appeare at their Call, they should have
 been able so to draw away some, and drive away
 others of Our good Subjects from Our Parlia-
 ment, as to prevaile with the Major part remain-
 ing of both Houses (how much soever that Major
 part be the smaller in comparison of the whole)
 to suffer that name (whose Reverence by all
 meanes We desire to preserve) to be so soyl'd, as
 to be prefixed to a paper of this unsufferable na-
 ture; that tends not only to the Destruction of Our
 Person, but to the Dissolution of this Govern-
 ment, and of all Society; If at least this Declaration
 (which We rather see cause to hope it hath
 not) have so much as been leene in the Hou-
 ses, and be not the single worke of the same Om-
 nipotent Committee, to which is devolved the
 whole power of the Parliament, and which, as
 We understand, is trusted (without acquainting
 the Houses) to break up any mans house, and take
 away the Armes, and money intended to defend
 and feed him (if they shall see cause to suspect,
 that he meant to assist his Sovereigne with them)
 and may well be as fully and implicitly trusted
 to Declare, as to Act, whatsoever they please. And
 though

though We doubt not, but to their utmost, they will continue that Injurie to Us, and that violation of the Subjects Liberty, and of publike Right, to vex and imprison those, who shall publish any of Our Answers to their Declarations, (and indeed whilst they affirme against all truth, and command against all Law, it concernes them to take care, that nothing be heard but what they say) yet Our comfort is, that Our Intentions, and the Duty of Our Subjects, are so well, and so generally known to Our People, that we cannot feare (from whomsoever it come, and though no Answer came out with it) that either, what is there said, should be believed, or what is there commanded, should be obeyed. Who knows not that Our Commissions for horse and foot were not granted out, till not onely Our Prerogative, but Our Propriety, Our Goods, Armes, Townes, *Militia*, and negative voice were taken from Us, and all the Kingdome commanded to be in Arms, and invited to bring in horse, plate, and money to frame an Army against Our command, and Proclamation, and till horse were rais'd and mustered accordingly, and then, with no Intention (nor hath any Action in any of our Ministers given the

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least.

least suspicion of such an Intention) by them to
 compell Our subjects to submit to Our Commis-
 sions of Array , or make use of them against the
 Parliament, but to regain *Hull*, held out in Rebelli-
 on against Us. And to suppress all such , as with-
 out Our Authority, and against Our Commands
 should rayse forces in this Our Kingdome , and
 leavy war against Us, under pretence of any order
 or ordinance of one or both Houses, & such tray-
 terous Assemblies and Marches have been the on-
 ly lawfull and necessary Occasions of Our good
 subjects, which have not been so much as inter-
 rupted by any Troopes of Ours; And what is affir-
 med of the spoiling and killing them, as they were
 so travelling under Our Protection, and according
 to law, is a most malicious Affirmation , as well
 without truth, as without instance , invented at
 once to make Our Troopes terrible , and Us odi-
 ous to Our People. What care have we taken that
 by this meanes the power of the sword should
 not come into the hands of Papists , who have by
 Our Proclamation strictly charged that no Papist
 should presume to list himselfe , either as Officer,
 or Souldier in this Our Army , having directed
 how he should be discovered, if he did presume,
 and suffer, if he were discovered? What care have

We

We taken to avoid Combustion, and Civill warre,
 offering to lay down Our Armes, when they shall
 have laid down theirs, in whom it was Treason
 to take them up, and restored Us thole things,
 which could not without Treason, as well as in-
 justice be forced away, and kept from Us, Our
 Arms, Ships, Town, &c. And when we might
 meet both Our Houses in a safe and secure place
 to debate freely of all the differences in a Parlia-
 mentary way. And by whose Influences these
 Propositions were received, & whether the Pro-
 poser, or rejecters were most carefull to avoid this
 ruine and Desolation of the Kingdome, we leave
 all the world to judge, and whether they, who di-
 vert the men and money, collected for the reliefe
 of distressed *Ireland*, to raise forces against their
 Prince, (who asks them nothing, but what is le-
 gall, nor will deny them any thing that is) doe not
 joyne with the Popish and Jesuiticall faction in
 the bloody Massacre of many Thousand Prote-
 stants in that miserable Kingdome. We propose
 likewise to every mans judgement, whether the
 declaring those to be Traytors, who execute Our
 Commission of *Array* (issued in so many Kings
 Raignes, agreed upon by Parliament, and there
 yeelded to by the King, to be settled, as now it is,
 as

as a matter of great grace. And since that time which was in the 5^o Hen. In no Parliament complained of) whilst our good Subjects are vexed and imprisoned, not onely for resisting, but for humbly petitioning so , as may seeme but to insinuate something against their most illegall Commands concerning the *Militia*. (To which power of commanding no Title can be made by any Statute, or any Precedent, nor can we ever find by search, nor obtaine to be told, what those fundamentall Lawes are, by which it is pretended. So deepe those foundations are laid, beyond all meanes of discovery.) And the Declaring that those, who raise men, by vertue of Our Command, & Commission (the only legall way) traiterously and rebelliously leavy war against the King, and ordaining it to be lawfull for all Our Subjects by force of Arms to resist them, and their Accomplices, and the raising of forces by Authority of Parliament (that is, by the remaining part of both Houles) never in the most outrageous times before attempted, & commanding severall Persons, whom they call Lieutenants to lead, and giving them power to transport from one County to another, the forces of severall of Our Counties against them ; and to kill and slay all such , as by
force

force shall oppose them, Our Self not excepted; commanding all Our Officers and Subjects to be assisting to them, and undertaking to secure them for so doing, by the power and Authority of Parliament (which is first to allow, and next to command, & then to pardon Treason) be not to have already subverted, as much as in them lyes, the Liberty of the Subject, the law of the Land, and altered the antient government of the Kingdome, leaving Our Subjects without all Rule to walke by, when the most cleere Lawes cannot direct and secure them, and they see all those antient bounds passed over, which were ever as much known to be the Duty of both Houses to observe, as it was Evident, that there were, and that it was necessary that there should be Two Houses of Parliament; and at once behold the law (which is to defend and protect the Subject) and Us, (who are to protect and defend the Law) need Defence, and Protection; We doubt not therefore, but all Our good Subjects will come in to Our Assistance, and that this wicked charge of intending to introduce Popery, Idolatry, and Arbitrary Government, laid by Implication upon us (because we defend Our Selves, and would recover Our own) will be so farre from being a Motive against Us, that this intolerable

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tolerable Indignity , and damnable Scandall , (so daily and visibly confuted by all Our Professions and Actions) will encrease Our good Subjects zeal towards Us , and their Indignation against the Contrivers; And they will esteeme themselves obliged by the Religion of Almighty God , to oppose this war , so impiously , so treasonably , and so groundlessly made upon Us their King , and his Anointed.

We therefore require all Our Commissioners of Array , Sheriffes , and all Our other Officers and Ministers to raise all the power and forces of their severall Counties to assist the Marquesse of *Hertford* , the Earle of *Northampton* , the Lord *Willoughby* of *Eresby* , the Lord *Dunsmore* , the Lord *Pawlett* , the Lord *Seymour* , *Henry Hastings* Esquire , *Sir John Stowell* , *Sir Ralph Hopton* , *John Digby* Esquire , and all other in the legall and necessary Execution of Our Commissions of Array , and in the raising and conducting of such Horse and Foot , as shall be rais'd by Our Commission : and by force of Armes to oppose the Earle of *Essex* , the Lord *Say* , and all other , that shall raise , or conduct any Forces raised by pretence of Authority of both Houses , and the Persons of all such Traitors , and their Adherents , and Accomplices to Arrest and Imprison,

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Imprison, to the end they may be brought to a
fayre and legall tryall, by their Peers, and accor-
ding to the Law. And this we require from them,
as they tender the Defence of Our Person, the true
Religion, the Law of the Land, the Liberty, and
Property of the Subject, and the true and just Pri-
viledges of Parliament. And for so doing, they
shall be defended and secured by Us, and by the
Law; with whom, and with which, we doubt
not but Our Subjects will sooner choose to
live and dye, then with the Earle
of *Essex* and his
Adherents.

FINIS.

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